

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 L-03 TRSE-00 PC-10 OMB-01

ST-01 FBO-01 ABF-01 M-02 A-01 OC-06 CCO-00 AGR-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IGA-02 /171 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:RDLORTON:MMK

APPROVED BY NEA/INS:DKUX

ASIA/SA:JCOLES

ASIA/GC:CGOLDSTEIN (INFO)

L/T:MMCQUADE (INFO)

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P R 172151Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 154818

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, NP, US

SUBJECT: CUSTOMS RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN ADVISERS

REF: KATHMANDU 2803 (NOTAL)

1. NEPALESE FIRST SECRETARY RIMAL, ACCOMPANIED BY SECOND SECRETARY JOSHI, CALLED ON ACTING COUNTRY DIRECTOR KUX JULY 16 TO DISCUSS PROPOSED GON CUSTOMS REGULATIONS REGARDING FOREIGN ADVISERS. LORTON SAT IN.

2. RIMAL REQUESTED HE BE UPDATED ON WHAT HAD TRANSPIRED SO FAR IN KATHMANDU. KUX INFORMED HIM WE HAD FIRST HEARD ABOUT THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS THROUGH UNDP AND THEN DIRECTLY ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO. HE DESCRIBED OUR CONCERN AS MORE OVER MANNER IN WHICH PROBLEM WAS BEING HANDLED
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RATHER THAN SUBSTANCE OF GON DESIRE TO MODIFY IMPORT

PRIVILEGES OF FOREIGN ADVISORY PERSONNEL. CITING
RELEVANT SECTIONS OF 1951 TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT
RE RIGHT OF CONSULTATION, KUX ALSO READ TEXT OF
AMBASSADOR CARGO'S LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER (REFTEL)
AND TEXT OF FINANCE MINISTRY'S LETTER TO USAID DIRECTOR.

3. RIMAL EXPRESSED VIEW THAT THE MATTER WAS NOT YET OUT
OF CONTROL, NOTING THAT PUBLICATION IN THE "NEPAL
GAZETTE" WAS A COMPLICATED AND TIME-CONSUMING PROCESS.
HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT WHEN HE WAS CHIEF OF PROTOCOL,

THE FINANCE MINISTRY (I.E. CUSTOMS) HAD WANTED TO MAKE
SIMILAR CHANGES, BUT THAT HE HAD SUCCESSFULLY OPPOSED
IT. HE SAID HE HAD ARGUED THAT NEPAL MUST NOT GET A
REPUTATION FOR GOING BACK ON ITS INTERNATIONAL AGREE-
MENTS. HE SPECULATED MAJOR CONCERN OF GON NOT RE
IMPORTS BUT COMMISSARIES, PARTICULARLY THAT OPERATED
BY INDIANS. HE CONCLUDED THAT HE WOULD DISCUSS WHAT
FURTHER ACTION TO TAKE WITH AMBASSADOR KHANAL.

4. FYI: AMBASSADOR IS ALSO AWARE OF OUR CONCERN.
WE HOPE HE WILL BE SENDING SOMETHING TO KATHMANDU WHICH
MAY WELL HELP YOUR EFFORTS THERE. END FYI. KISSINGER

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